Companies are short listed where there is an increase in price of a non-scheduled formulation by more than 20% in one year and the annual turnover of the formulation pack exceeds Rs. 1 crore. Further, the share of the formulator in that segment of the formulation is required to be at least 20% of the market or the medicine is one of the top 3 selling brands of the group. The criteria, namely, high turnover and 20% price increase are designed to identify cases of mass consumption and to meet the requirement of 'public interest', referred to in para 10(b) of the DPCO, 1995.

Monitoring of prices of non-Scheduled formulations is an ongoing exercise undertaken by the NPPA. Recently, this Department/NPPA has issued orders for reduction in the prices of 14 formulations by 0.50% to 24.54%. Now the NPPA has been authorized to take up such cases itself and reduce prices to the permissible level, if necessary. In case a company fails to adhere to the price so fixed by the NPPA, a case of overcharging will be processed against that company by NPPA.

Study in price rise of medicines

†1994. DR. MURU MANOHAR JOSHI:
SHRI RAJ MOHINDER SINGH MAJITHA:

Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the prices of various medicines in the country have doubled during the last year and prices of these medicines have been increased from 6 per cent to 10 per cent within the last two months;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the names of the medicines whose prices have been increased;

(c) whether Government have conducted any study regarding causes and the justification of this price rise; and

(d) if so, the details of the study report thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI B.K. HANDIQUE): (a) to (d) National Pharmaceutical Pricing Authority (NPPA) an attached office of the Department of Chemicals

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

and Petrochemicals fixes or revises prices of Scheduled drugs/formulations as per the provisions of the Drugs (Prices Control) Order, 1995 (DPCO, 95). The NPPA has fixed/revised the prices of Scheduled formulation in respect of **441** packs during the period January, 2006 to October, 2006 and 32 formulations packs during the period 1st November, 2006 to 31st December, 2006. The prices have been increased in respect of 140 formulation packs during the period January, 06 to October, 06 and in respect of 14 formulation packs during the period 1st November, 06 to 31 st December, 06. Percentage wise increase in 154 cases is summarized as under:—

Percentage(%) Increase	No. of packs		Total
	Jan, 06 to Oct, 06	Nov, 06 to Dec, 06	
Upto 10%	103	8	111
Above 10%	37	6	43
TOTAL:	140	14	154

In respect of drugs, not covered under the Drugs (Prices Control) Order, 1995 *i.e.* non-Scheduled formulations, manufacturers are free to fix the prices by themselves without seeking approval of Government/NPRA. As a part of price monitoring activity, NPPA regularly examines the movement in prices of non-Scheduled formulations. The details of percentage number of packs whose prices have increased on the monthly basis in percentage terms as per Retail audit Reports of ORG-IMS Research Pvt. Ltd for the year 2006 as follows:

Year	Jan	Feb	Mar	April	May	June	July	August	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec
2006	1.36	1.17	1.76	0.15	0.55	0.31	0.66	0.27	0.34	0.66	-	0.37

PCPIRs in Gujarat

1995. SHRI JAYANTILAL BAROT: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) Whether it is a fact that the Central Government has appointed M/s Dalai Mott McDonald as a Consultant for shortlisting the location for setting up Petroleum, Chemical and Petrochemical Investment Region/ Mega Chemical Industrial Estate;